Availability of Ethanol Blended Petrol

†1995. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a final decision with regard to the implementation of the plan of selling ethanol mixed petrol to the consumers;

(b) if so, when this decision was taken;

(c) the estimated average annual availability of ethanol in the country; and

(d) the reasons for non-implementation of the above plan, so far, in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) A decision was taken by the Government in September 2002, with a view to give boost to agriculture sector and reduce environmental pollution, that, with effect from 1.1.2003, only 5% ethanol blended petrol shall be sold in notified states and union territories. However, due to difficulties relating to taxation issues at state level and inconsistent availability of ethanol, the programme was taken up in a phased manner. Further, due to continuous difficulties in sourcing ethanol consisently at reasonable prices, the Gazette Notification No. 705(E) dated 27.10.2004 was issued. In terms of the Gazette Notification dated 27.10.2004, as long as the prices of ethanol are competitive and reasonable, and supply of ethanol is adequate, the oil marketing companies are statutorily required to lift the same and supply the ethanol blended petrol in notified areas. The areas which have been notified are the States of Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Andhra Pradesh (all districts except Chittoor and Nellore), Tamil Nadu (only districts Coimbatore, Dindigul, Erode, Kanyakumari, Nilgiri, Ramanathpuram, Tirunelveli, Tuticorin, and Virudhunagar), and the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Union Territories of Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu.

Ethanol is a derivative of sugarcane molasses which is a decontrolled item. As such, no data on availability etc. are being maintained.

Production of Ethanol-Doped Petrol

1996. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of progress made on conservation of petrol by introducing ethanol-doped petrol all over the country;

(b) whether the pilot projects set up in U.P. and Maharashtra for production of ethanol have shown promising results; and

(c) whether Government would consider mandating the sugar industry for increased production of ethanol corresponding to the capacity of each sugar mill?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The Government has introduced a programme of supplying 5% ethanol blended petrol (EBP) in notified areas with a view to giving boost to agriculture sector and reducing environmental pollution. This programme was introduced after encouraging results of the three pilot projects at Miraj and Panewadi in Maharashtra and at Aonla in Uttar Pradesh for blending petrol with 5% ethanol.

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